

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:191

ANSWERED ON:06.07.2004

NATURAL CALAMITY

Chaliha Shri Kirip;Chouhan Shri Shivraj Singh;Jagannath Dr. M.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provide any assistance to States affected by Natural Calamities, flood etc.

(b) if so, the details of guidelines/criteria for providing assistance to States for Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Relief Fund; and

(c) the details of the assistance requested in cash or kind by various States and assistance provided in cash or kind to each State during each of the last three years, till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY)

(a) to (c): As per the existing scheme for financing relief expenditure, the State Governments are primarily responsible for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the areas affected by natural calamities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial and logistic support, where necessary.

Assistance for relief and rehabilitation in the wake of natural calamities is provided under two Schemes. A Calamity relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State. The size of the corpus of the CRF has been determined by the Finance Commission. The Government of India contributes 75% of the corpus of the CRF. The State Governments contribute 25%. The State Governments are required to meet the expenditure for providing immediate relief to the victims of natural calamities as per the approved norms and items of assistance from the CRF. A Committee under Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary of the State has been authorized under the Scheme of CRF to decide on all matters connected with the financing of the relief expenditure.

Where funds available in the CRF do not prove to be sufficient for meeting the expenditure on relief and rehabilitation, in case of a calamity of severe nature, financial assistance is also provided to the States from the national Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in accordance with the laid down procedure. As per the procedure, the State Governments are required to submit a detailed memorandum indicating the sector-wise details of damage and requirements of funds for the relief operations. On receipt of the memorandum from the State Government, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team is deputed for an on the spot assessment of situation and requirement of funds. Based on the assessment of the Central Team, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) makes recommendations for release of assistance from NCCF. A High Level Committee, with the Home Minister; the Finance Minister; the Minister for Agriculture and the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission as members, considers the request of the State Government and decides the quantum of assistance from the NCCF, based on the report of the Central Team, recommendations of the IMG thereon, approved items and norms of assistance and funds available under CRF.

The requests received from various States for financial assistance from NCCF were considered as per the laid down procedure. A Statement showing the State-wise details of allocation of CRF and assistance released from NCCF during the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 and till date are given in Annexure-I. State-wise details of foodgrains allocated for natural calamities during the above period are given in Annexure-II